593 The parents normally enjoyed prestige in the family and the children took their advice into consideration even after they had become adults.

[674] The percentage of juvenile delinquency was not high and occurred mostly in the larger cities, rarely in rural communities. In the rearing of children, the Estonian mother played, of course, an important role. Being at home more than the father, her moral influence was usually decisive

[733] for her growing children. Even if the father was inclined to some weakness--of which the most common was excessive drinking--the mother in many cases was able to bring up a decent

562 family. In Estonian public life the important
593 role of the mother has been strongly emphasized. Estonian literature has many examples of affectionate relations between children and their mother. Mother's Day was observed every year in schools, churches and in public

362 have reported, there has been very little build-
727 ing activity during the Second Soviet Occupation, and at the present time there is a serious housing crisis in Estonian cities.

565 Class distinctions were not sharp in independ-
162 ent Estonia; there were neither great industrial magnates nor a pauperized proletariat, although previously there had been great landowners and landless tenants in rural Estonia. In 1934, only 4.9 per cent of the population lived on capital, while the rest made a living at various types of work; 36 per cent were wage-earners, while 64 per cent were self-employed and independent.

[674] Estonia, a land of few big cities and therefore
[735] of few slums, had a low rate of crime, juvenile delinquency, begging and vagabondage.

466 From the beginning of independence, Estonian social policy had a sound foundation; its aims